CLAIMS

1. Kit for introduction of a plastic surgery implant (1) into the body of a patient comprising:

- a plastic surgery implant (1) designed to be implanted in the body of a patient, said implant (1) presenting a deformable character which makes it possible for it to pass from a configuration for introduction into the body to a functional configuration within the body,

- a case (2) shaped to envelope said implant (1) in the introduction configuration, said case (2) being provided with an opener member (3) that can be activated by positive action making it possible for it to pass on the one hand from a closed configuration, in which it confines implant (1) in its introduction configuration to, on the other hand, an open configuration, in which it enables deformation of said implant (1) into its functional configuration,

case (2) comprising a locking means (4), linked functionally to the opener member (3) and making it possible to immobilise by itself, without any external action on said means (4), case (2) in the closure configuration, said kit being characterised in that case (2) is provided with a thread (12) having a first portion sewn as a single-thread chain stitch so as to form said locking means (4), and having a second portion (14) that remains free and forms the opener member (3), actionable by traction.

2. Kit as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that case (2) comprises a sheath (5) fitted with at least one lateral opening arranged (6) along its length, said

opening (6) being closed by said locking means (4) when case (2) is in the closed configuration and said opening (6) being cleared, to make possible deformation of implant (1) into its functional configuration, when case (2) is in the open configuration.

3. Kit as claimed in claim 2, characterised in that sheath (5) presents an essentially tubular shape and is split over all or part of its length, said split making up lateral opening (6).

4. Kit as claimed in one of claims 2 or 3, characterised in that sheath (5) is constructed from a flexible material.

5. Kit as claimed in one of claims 2 to 4, characterised in that sheath (5) is formed from a fabric whose two opposite edges (8A, 8B) are interlocked by locking means (4), in such a way that the fabric is shaped in an essentially tubular way.

6. Kit as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that the fabric is constructed by weaving of threads principally based on polyamide, of the nylon® thread type.

7. Kit as claimed in one of claims 2 to 6, characterised in that the periphery of lateral opening (6) is fitted with eyelets (13), designed to be assembled by single-thread chain stitch sewing in order to close said opening (6).

8. Kit as claimed in claim 7 when it is subordinate to one of claims 5 or 6, characterised in that eyelets (13) are delimited by the mesh of the fabric located in proximity to and along said edges.

9. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 8, characterised in that the chain stitch belongs to class 101 of standard NF G 05-002 of December 1982.

10. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 9, characterised in that implant (1) comprises at least one flexible pouch defining a predetermined internal volume, said at least one flexible pouch being fitted with a connection means constructed to receive a connection unit (7) designed to be linked to a fluid source, for the purpose of effectuating expansion of said pouch inside the patient's body by filling with the fluid.

11. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 10, characterised in that case (2) is fitted with an optical examination means designed to visualise the inside of the patient's body and/or with an illumination means designed to illuminate the inside of the patient's body.

12. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 11, characterised in that case (2) is fitted with at least one graduation on its outer surface.

13. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 12, characterised in that at least a part of surface (5A) of case (2) is covered with a coating for the purpose of

promoting the sliding of case (2) against an outer surface.

14. Kit as claimed in claim 13, characterised in that the coating is based on one or more materials from among the following group:

- biocompatible elastomer, of the silicone or polyurethane type,
- paraxylilene, of the parylene® sort,
- polyvinylpyrrolidone,
- sodium hyaluronate.

15. Kit as claimed in one of claims 1 to 14, characterised in that implant (1) belongs to the following group:

- mammary implants,
- pectoral implants,
- leg implants,
- arm implants,
- buttocks implants.

16. Case (2) for introduction of a plastic surgery implant (1) into the body of a patient, said implant (1) presenting a deformable character making it possible for it to pass from a configuration for introduction into the body to a functional configuration within the body, said case (2) being shaped to envelope said implant (1) in the introduction configuration and being provided with an opener member (3) that can be activated by positive action making it possible for it to pass, on the one hand, from a closed configuration, in which it confines implant (1) in its introduction configuration to, on the other

hand, an open configuration, in which it enables deformation of said implant (1) into its functional configuration, said case (2) comprising a locking means (4) linked functionally to opener member (3) and making it possible to immobilise by itself, without any external action on said means (3), case (2) in the closure configuration, said case (2) being characterised in that it is provided with a thread (12) having a first portion sewn as a single-thread chain stitch so as to form said locking means (4), and having a second portion (14) that remains free and forms the opener member (3), actionable by traction.

17. Case (2) as claimed in claim 16, characterised in that it comprises a sheath (5) fitted with at least one lateral opening (6) arranged along its length, said lateral opening (6) being closed by said locking means (4) when case (2) is in the closed configuration and said opening (6) being cleared, in order to make possible the deformation of said implant (1) into its functional configuration, when case (2) is in the open configuration.

18. Case (2) as claimed in claim 17, characterised in that sheath (5) presents an essentially tubular shape and is split over all or part of its length, said split making up said lateral opening (6).

19. Case (2)as claimed in claim 18, characterised in that sheath (5) is formed from a fabric, the two opposite edges of which are interlocked by locking means (4), in such a way that the fabric is shaped in an essentially tubular way.

20. Case (2) as claimed in claim 19, characterised in that the fabric is constructed by weaving of threads principally based on polyamide, of the nylon® thread type.

21. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 18 to 20, characterised in that the periphery of lateral opening (6) is fitted with eyelets (13), designed to be assembled by single-thread chain stitch sewing in order to close said opening (6).

22. Case (2) as claimed in claim 21 when it is subordinate to one of claims 19 or 20, characterised in that eyelets (13) are formed by meshes of the fabric located in proximity to and along said edges.

23. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 22, characterised in that it is made from a flexible material.

24. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 23, characterised in that it is constructed from an elastic material.

25. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 24, characterised in that at least one part of its surface (5A) is covered with a coating for the purpose of promoting the sliding of case (2) against an outer surface.

26. Case (2) as claimed in claim 25, characterised in that the coating has a base of one or more of the materials from among the following group:

- biocompatible elastomer, of the silicone or polyurethane type,
- paraxylilene, of the parylene® type,
- polyvinylpyrrolidone,
- sodium hyaluronate.

27. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 26, characterised in that the chain stitch belongs to class 101 of standard NF G 05-002 of December 1982.

28. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 27, characterised in that it is fitted with an optical examination means designed to visualise the inside of the patient's body and/or with a an illumination means designed to illuminate the inside of the patient's body.

29. Case (2) as claimed in one of claims 16 to 28, characterised in that it is fitted with at least one graduation on its outer surface.

30. Case for introduction of a plastic surgery implant into the body of a patient, said implant being taken from among the following group:

- mammary implant,
- pectoral implant,
- leg implant,
- arm implant,
- buttocks implant.

in accordance with one of claims 16 to 29.

31. Manufacturing method for a kit for introduction of a plastic surgery implant (1) into the body of a patient in which:

- a plastic surgery implant (1) is supplied or manufactured, said implant presenting a deformable character that makes it possible for it to pass from a configuration for introduction into the body to a functional configuration within the body,

- a case (2) is supplied or manufactured, designed to envelope said implant (1) in the introduction configuration, said case essentially presenting, when it is in the closed configuration, a sheath (5) shape,

said method being characterised in that it comprises a step for insertion of implant (1) into sheath (5) in which:

- implant (1) is shaped in the introduction configuration,

- then implant (1) is progressively constrained along its length by means of a jig (23), in such a way as to reduce the transverse section (S) of said implant (1), while simultaneously covering implant (1) with sheath (5) in the closed configuration.

32. Method as claimed in claim 31, characterised in that it comprises a step during which said case (2) is provided with an opener member (3) that can be activated in order to make it possible for case (2) to pass from a closed configuration, in which it is capable of confining implant (1) in its introduction configuration, to an open configuration, in which it is capable of enabling the deformation of said implant (1) into its functional configuration, said method comprising a step for locking

of the case (2) in the closed configuration in which case (2) is provided with a locking means (4) making it possible for it to immobilise by itself, without any external action on said means (3), case (2) in the closure configuration, and in which said locking means (4) is functionally linked to the opener member (3).

33. Method as claimed in claim 32, characterised in that at the time of the locking step, the case is provided with a thread (12) provided with a thread (12) having a first portion sewn as a single-thread chain stitch so as to form said locking means (4), and having a second portion (14) that remains free and forms the opener member (3), actionable by traction.

34. Use of a chain stitch in accordance with class 101 of standard NF G 05-002 of December 1982 as locking means (4) of a case (2) for introduction of a plastic surgery implant (1) into the body of a patient.